

predominantly dark lower mandible (pers. obs. and R. Grimmett *pers. comm.*). Interestingly in this context, Alexander (1955) gives details of Dull Green Leaf Warblers seen at Ootacamund with all-darkish bills. The Largebilled Leaf Warbler has a long and stout bill, the lower mandible with a variable pale base, although usually darker in the breeding season and dark in skins (Ticehurst 1938). Statements in the literature that Tytler's Leaf Warbler has a very long bill appear to be erroneous; it is only marginally, if at all, longer than that of the dull Green Leaf Warbler (12–14 mm for Tytler's, 11.5–14.5 mm for Dull Green (Ticehurst 1938, Williamson 1967). The slender profile is, however, distinctive.

3. Call — all three species can be excluded by call. The Largebilled Leaf Warbler has a very distinctive, stereotyped call (Ali & Ripley 1983 and pers. obs.). Bright and Dull Green Leaf Warblers share very similar, unequivocally disyllabic calls, a *chee—wee* or *tiss—yip* (Dean 1985 and pers. obs.). Unfortunately we are unfamiliar with the call of Tytler's Leaf Warbler, which is usually described as a single feeble note and a double *y—it* (Inskipp & Inskipp 1985).

The winter range of Tytler's Leaf Warbler is poorly known, but the few records include two from the Nilgiris and it is generally believed to comprise the Western Ghats complex (Ali & Ripley 1983). Our observations support this hypothesis. The difficulty of identifying birds in their winter quarters perhaps explains the dearth of records.

Dark Thrush *Turdus obscurus*: One was seen on 4 February 1984 by C. Robson at Ootacamund at about 2250 m in a relict stand of montane forest amidst pine and eucalyptus plantations. One was seen on 23 January 1985 by SCH at Point Calimere, Tamil Nadu, in scrub immediately inland of the coast. The combination of a prominent pale supercilium and variable buff or peachy flanks and breast and distinguish this thrush.

The Dark Thrush is a common winter visitor to the Indian subcontinent from Bangladesh eastwards. The above records appear to be the first from Tamil Nadu but, together with four recent winter records from Nepal (Inskipp & Inskipp 1985) and a record from northwest Karnataka (Ali & Ripley 1983), may indicate that the species is a rare, but regular straggler to other parts of the subcontinent.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank R. Grimmett and C. Robson for their expert advice in planning our trip and provision of their records. J. Eames also supplied us with details of his observations and S.C. Madge kindly commented on a draft of this note.

S.C. HARRAP
N.J. REDMAN

October 29, 1987.

REFERENCES

- ALEXANDER, H.G. (1955): Field-notes on some Asian leaf warblers - 1 *Brit. Birds* 48: 293 - 99.
- ALI, S. (1969): Birds of Kerala. Second Edition. Delhi.
- & RIPLEY, S.D. (1983): Handbook of the birds of India and Pakistan. Compact Edition. Oxford University Press, Delhi.
- DEAN, A.R. (1985): Review of the British status and identification of Greenish Warbler. *Brit. Birds* 78: 437 - 451.
- INSKIPP, C., & INSKIPP, T. (1985): A guide to the birds of Nepal, London.
- TICEHURST, C.B. (1938): A systematic review of the genus *Phylloscopus*. London.
- WILLIAMSON, K. (1967): Identification for ringers, 2. The genus *Phylloscopus*. Revised Edition. Tring, U.K.

37. ADDITIONAL RECORD ON MORTALITY FROM HAILSTORM AT JAIPUR

On 8 May 1987, at around 1630 hrs, a heavy hailstorm hit some parts of Jaipur city, Rajasthan. The effect of this hailstorm, which lasted more than an hour, was very severe inside the campus of Rajasthan University at Jaipur. The weight of the hailstones varied from 100 to 150 gm. Considerable damage was caused to the fauna and flora of this area. A number of trees like *Polyalthia longifolia*, *Delonix regia*, *Cassia fistula*, *Azadirachta indica* were damaged. The next morning we recorded dead bodies of several species of common birds and some mammals. They were Indian Peafowl *Pavo cristatus*, Red

wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus*, Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis*, Roseringed Parakeet *Psittacula krameri*, Ringdove *Streptopelia decaocto*, Blue Rock Pigeon *Columba livia*, House Crow *Corvus splendens*, House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*, Spotted Owlet *Athene bramma* and Five-striped Palm Squirrel *Funambulus pennanti*.

October 18, 1987.

B. RAM MANOHAR
M. RAJASEKARAN